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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.:	10/687,503	Confirmation No:	9046
Applicant :	Kevin Doll et al.	Filed :	October 15, 2003
TC/A.U.:	3721	Examiner :	Gloria R. Weeks
Docket No.:	END0887USCIP1	Customer No.:	000027777

Title : **SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT HAVING A SINGLE  
LOCKOUT MECHANISM FOR PREVENTION OF FIRING**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 2231-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the  
United States Patent And Trademarks Office.

/Kimberly L. Moses/

Kimberly M. Moses

Date: April 18, 2005

**AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action of February 24, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification begins on page \_\_\_\_ of this paper.**

**Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.**

**Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.**